1953 OFFICIAL NOAL FOODTBALL

Guide

Bob Garrett
Stanford University

The Official Rules Book and Record Book of the NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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ed from ; Othol Meyer eyland's

top assistant, who became Tennessee's coach; Bernie Witucki, who replaced Buddy Brothers at Tulsa; Phil Dickens, who moved from Wofford to Wyoming, and John Cherberg, who succeeded Odell. Here, in capsule form, is the outlook by sections:

Midwest: Notre Dame, the upset king of '52, will again be the top independent, with a powerful ground game and experienced quarterbacking. Experts predict that Michigan State, No. 1 in the nation last season, will have to

beat out Ohio State for the Big Ten title. Oklahoma, despite heavy losses, is expected to continue its dominance of the Big Seven, and the University of Houston, rising swiftly into the ranks of the "big-time," will be favored to defend its Missouri Valley title successfully.

Southwest: A three-way battle is anticipated in this mysterious region, where the favorite has won only a handful of times in twenty years. The contenders: Rice, which won four conference games in a row at the end of last season; Texas, defending champion, and Baylor. SMU, switching from its wing and spread formations to the split T, is the dark horse.

West: Southern California produced the first Pacific Coast Conference Rose Bowl victory since the pact with the Big Ten was signed eight years ago, beating Wisconsin, 7 to 0. The Trojans are favored to win the Coast title again this fall. Next in line is UCLA, which has Paul Cameron returning to its backfield, followed by California and Washington. Among the independents, College of the Pacific should be strong. Utah is expected to rule the Mountain States (Skyline) Conference.

South: This section, which had one of its greatest seasons in '52, will be strong again. Georgia Tech has its starting backfield back and will be an oddson choice to retain the Southeastern Conference crown. Tennessee and Alabama will challenge. Georgia is the "sleeper." West Virginia may lead the parade among the ten teams sticking with the Southern Conference. Duke is likely to top the newly formed seven-team Southern loop, which was still without a name as these lines went to press.

East: Princeton and Pennsylvania should be the dominant forces. Navy is expected to be the principal independent, as Army continues its slow climb back to national prominence.

NATIONAL RATINGS, 1936-1952

The Associated Press poll of sports writers, originated in 1936, annually determines the rating of the college grid powers, and the poll's No. 1 team is generally recognized as the national champion.

Counting 10 points for a first place rating, 9 points for second, and so on, Notre Dame is the 17-year leader with 85 points. The Irish won four national titles in

that span. In years prior to the writers' poll, the Rissman and Knute Rockne trophies, symbolic of the national title, were awarded annually from 1924 to 1936.

17 YEARS	NATIONAL CHAMPIONS, 1924-1952		
2. Michigan (1) (3. Tennessee (1) . 5 4. Army (2) 5 5. Minnesota (3) 4 6. Oklahoma (1) . 4 7. Alabama 5 8. California 9 9. So. Calif.	15 1952—Mich. State 12 1951—Tennessee 13 1950—Oklahoma 1949—Notre Dame 10 1948—Michigan 1947—Notre Dame 11 1946—Notre Dame 10 1945—Army 14 1943—Notre Dame	1942—Ohio State 1941—Minnesota 1940—Minnesota 1939—Texas A&M 1938—Texas Christian 1937—Pittsburgh 1936—Minnesota 1935—So. Methodist	1932—Michigan 1931—So. Californi 1930—Notre Dame 1929—Notre Dame